

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A pneumatic tire, which includes a member attached to an inner surface of a tread thereof by use of an elastic fixing band, the member being independent from the tire, wherein the elastic fixing band is formed of a metallic band form with a width in a range of 10 to 40 mm and a thickness in a range of 0.1 to 0.5 mm.

2. (Original) The pneumatic tire according to claim 1, wherein the band form is made of a metallic material having a tensile strength in a range of 400 to 1400 MPa.

3. (Currently amended) The pneumatic tire according to ~~any one of claims 1 and 2~~ claim 1, wherein an outer periphery of the elastic fixing band is covered with rubber or synthetic resin.

4. (Currently amended) The pneumatic tire according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein a circumferential length of the elastic fixing band is set being 10 to 50 mm shorter than a circumferential length of the center of an inner periphery of the tire.

5. (Currently amended) The pneumatic tire according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, wherein the member is a sound absorbing member formed of a porous material.

6. (Currently amended) The pneumatic tire according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, wherein a circumferential length of the elastic fixing band is a fixed length.

7. (Currently amended) The pneumatic tire according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, comprising:

a stretching mechanism at least in one location on a circumference of the elastic fixing band, the stretching mechanism automatically adjusting a circumferential length of the elastic fixing band.

8. (Original) The pneumatic tire according to claim 7, wherein the stretching mechanism is formed of an elastic spring mechanism.

9. (Original) The pneumatic tire according to claim 7, wherein the stretching mechanism is formed by coupling both ends of the elastic fixing band with each other in a manner that the elastic fixing band can slide.